





the Government. I am going to give you the heaviest punishment in my power—two years imprisonment with hard labour—and I only regret that I cannot order you to be whipped. This having been interpreted, his Lordship added, "As sometimes lawbreakers come to hear the fate of their friends, if any are here I hope they will take the lesson to heart. One of the prisoners begged, ineffectually however, to be deported to China instead."

THE ALLEGED MURDER IN THIRD STREET.  
The two prisoners who had been committed by Mr. Sercombe-Smith for the murder of a coolie in a depot in Third Street, last week, were formally discharged, the Attorney-General considering the evidence not conclusive.

## TELEGRAMS.

The subjoined telegrams are taken from the London Standard of the 16th ulto, received this morning, by the Norddeutscher Lloyd steamer Neckar:—

PARIS, April 14th.  
The death is announced from Cannes of M. A. Nobel, the inventor of dynamite.

CASSEL, April 14th.  
An International Conference of persons connected with the sugar trade will be held here in Whitson week. It is expected that from six hundred to eight hundred delegates from Germany and foreign countries will be present.

OTTAWA, April 14th.  
The Canadian Government has received a communication from St. John's, stating that the Newfoundland Delegation will leave for Ottawa on June 10th to negotiate the terms for the entry of that colony into the Dominion.

CONSTANTINOPLE, April 14th.  
A band of Bulgarian refugees, who left Salonica for Dedaguchi, provided with Russian passports, with the object of fomenting disorder in Bulgaria, have been arrested by the Turkish authorities, and sent to Adrianople.

The Porte is likely to come into conflict with the Greek Patriarchate for recalling the Greek Bishop of Sates without the intermediary of the Patriarchate, this being regarded as a gross breach of privilege.

The Porte has at length been completely reassured regarding the state of affairs in Crete, as it is now clearly established that the recent assassinations of Mussulmans in the island have absolutely no political significance, but are isolated cases due to want of energy on the part of the present Governor.

ROME, April 14th.  
A telegram from Massowah states that, according to intelligence received there from the interior, the Negus will arrive at Adowah on Monday next, and that Ras Alula is following the King. During the Abyssinian Easter festivities, King Menelik will hold a Council with all his Chiefs to study the question of a fresh allotment of the Governments of the Provinces.

Tessamnia, Ras Alula's brother, has been degraded and imprisoned, while his troops have been disbanded, disarmed, and sent back to their own country. The telegram adds that the dryness of the weather has caused an improvement in the sanitary condition of the Italian positions, in spite of the increased temperature.

April 15th.  
A despatch from Massowah of to-day's date announces that the steam ship *Archimede* started for Italy this morning, carrying the Negus and two companies of troops and a field battery, under the command of Colonel Valles.

VIENNA, April 15th.  
General surprise has been created here by the introduction into the Vienna and Pesth Parliaments at the present juncture of the Bill empowering the Government to keep all soldiers who have served their full term of three years under the colours for a fourth year in the Regular Army, a measure by which the peace strength of the Austrian Army would be increased by over one hundred thousand men. Urgency has been demanded for the present measure, although the Army Law Amendment Bill, which is of far wider scope, is to be introduced in the coming Autumn.

The preamble to the Hungarian Bill, in explanation of the demand for urgency, points out that cases may arise where the peace strength of portions of the Army may require to be increased without the necessity of a general mobilisation, and this object, after the passing of the present Bill, may best be attained by retaining under the colours for an additional year or less the men who have completed their time in the corps in question. It is further mentioned that the measure will serve to increase the strength of several of the Army Corps near the frontiers, referring probably to those in Galicia and Transylvania. It nevertheless appears somewhat strange that this increase should be prepared for just when Russia is sending out peaceful news, and the papers are filled with telegrams announcing the withdrawal of Russian troops from the frontiers, whilst so much measure was found necessary during the war scare last winter.

Intelligence has, however, reached here from Galicia that several thousand Cossacks took up their quarters last week in the Russian frontier town of Husiatyn. They have only to cross the bridge over the little River Podhorod, a tributary of the Dniester, to be in Galicia at a point without any garrison or other protection. The appearance of these Cossacks in such numbers has induced the Magistrates of the Austrian frontier villages to send all public money into the interior, while Government officials as well as professional people have also begun sending their wives and children to a distance.

MADRID, April 15th.  
A Spanish Protestant clergyman, Señor Vila, has been condemned to imprisonment for two years four months and one day, and to a fine of two hundred and fifty francs and the costs, by the Criminal Court at Malaga, for having discussed and condemned the dogmas of the Roman Catholic Church in a pamphlet which he published in answer to the attacks of a Catholic priest from Paris, who came to Malaga and published a pamphlet against the Protestant religion.

NEW YORK, April 15th.  
Mr. Gillis, the Manager of the American Exchange, which has become bankrupt, is believed to have sailed by the Etruria. The liabilities of the Exchange are stated at four million dollars, but not so much actual cash is involved, because the Exchange issued letters of credit upon simple guarantees without money deposits. The letters issued against cash, and drawn upon by travellers, amount to an aggregate of a quarter of a million of dollars. Messrs. Knauth, Nachod, and Kahn have issued all approved letters that have been issued by the Exchange.

BERLIN, April 15th.  
It is announced that the negotiations between an English company and the Oldenburg Government for the construction of a great port, with docks, at Nordenham, opposite Bremerhaven, will shortly be concluded.

ROME, April 15th.  
According to the *Triumvir*, Count Mancinella, the Italian Ambassador in France, will leave this evening for Paris. This is regarded by the journal as indicating the probability of negotiations for the conclusion of a Franco-Italian Commercial Treaty.

ST. PETERSBURG, April 15th.  
In well-informed circles there is some talk of the resignation of Count Tolstol, Minister of the Interior. There is certainly no much truth in the rumour that his removal is contemplated.

if not actually decided upon. The reason given—and I think correctly—is the want of energy and zeal shown by Count Tolstol in carrying on the campaign against the Baltic Barons and Pastors.

PARIS, April 14th.  
M. Floquet to-day presided in the Trocadero at the annual general meeting of the Commercial Union, six thousand persons being present. The Premier delivered a speech, in which he declared that the sole guarantee for civil liberties was political liberty. Republican France had need neither of a Protector in times of peace, nor of a Dictator during war, if the necessity of defending the honour of her territory forced her to take up arms. "We want no one," continued M. Floquet, "because in peace we have Republican institutions, won after seven years of exertion, strife, and perseverance, while in case of war we have skilled and valiant Generals, who loyally obey the public powers, and a citizen army, the flower of the nation, for which you all feel solicitude, and which enjoys such popularity among you. It is a Republic of liberty which has decided to celebrate the centenary of 1789 by holding a Universal Exhibition. In order that the festival may be complete, let concord be restored among us, and let us remain a people master of its own destinies."

The *Temps* publishes a despatch from Aden, stating that M. Le Myre de Vilers, former French Resident General in Madagascar, has left that island, and will arrive in France towards the end of the month.

In accord with the advice tendered him by the Grand Chancellor of the Legion of Honour, the President of the Republic yesterday signed a Decree striking off the rolls of the Legion of Honour the name of M. Pierre Legrand, who obtained the Cross through the intermediary of M. Wilson.

THE CHINESE IN SIAM COCHIN-CHINA, ETC.  
The silent but persistent invasion of Indochina by China is, writes a correspondent to our Shanghai morning contemporary, one of the phenomena of the age. From ancient times the trading junks of Amoy and Swatow have ploughed the seas to Kiao-chi (Haiphong), Lin-yih and Chen-ch'eng (Tientsin), Chen-lah (Cambodia), K'unlun (Pulo Condor), Jau-fuh (Johore), and Chao-wa (Java), and the present steady flow of emigrating settlers most probably follows the lines already marked out by the mediæval mariners, but the deliberate settlement of these countries by the enterprising colonist is only a matter of these times. The movement has attained such enormous proportions now-a-days that the Chinese Government has been urged to itself and to enquire whether China is to desire no advantage whatever from these industrious populations who are making the fortunes of foreign colonial powers. First and foremost comes Siam, out of whose total population of 6,000,000 at the very least 2,000,000 are either pure Chinese or are mixed breeds wearing the *que* of the Siamese. The figure of 25,000,000 recently given by the Siamese Minister in London is considered utterly ridiculous by all foreigners in Siam, who are conversant with the resources of the country. It speaks well for the law-abiding instincts of the Chinese that they have so far been able to keep themselves where there is no rain whatever kept upon the free gratification of all their passions, where the native judiciary and executive are hopelessly corrupt, and where the intellectual capacity of the natives is immeasurably inferior, individual for individual, to that of the Chinese, to live so long not only without any ambitious attempts at revolt, but without ever giving serious trouble at all. The Chinese as a nation seem to be contemptuously indifferent to their rulers so long as Chinese ideas and development are left unimpaired. The Chinese are absolutely free. They are exempt from the forced labour imposed annually upon the natives, and willingly pay a small annual poll-tax as the price of this exemption; they govern themselves through their own societies and "congregations" live on terms of absolute equality with the Siamese, develop the resources of the country by their energy as cultivators and traders, and in all but the name have practically the whole country in their own hands. Fortunately for Siam the majority of the Chinese settlers are from that part of China which has least to do with the internal economy of the Empire, and who have no idea of allowing themselves to be made a *can't* of for the special benefit of the Manchu dynasty. Otherwise it would be perfectly easy for Chinese diplomacy to upset the whole Siamese state fabric, and to establish a Bangkok province, extending from Siam to Bangkok. In Cambodia, where again the Chinese have always been treated with the same liberality as in Siam, the Chinese element forms quite half the population, which, according to the most reliable accounts, does not much exceed half a million. In French Indo-China, Annam, and Tonquin, on the other hand, where the total population cannot fall short of 15,000,000, there are not more than 100,000 Chinese men told. Both in Tonquin and in Cochin-China they are liable to a very heavy annual poll-tax and house-tax, varying in amount from five to three hundred dollars a year, and besides that, each Chinese arrival, at least in Saigon, is at once photographed and placed under the surveillance of the police. He cannot leave without papers and a passport, he is obliged either to carry a letter of introduction, or to carry a heavy annual exemption fee, he has hardly any rights such as are enjoyed by Hongkong Chinese in anything that concerns the government and administration, he cannot, or at least does not, go swaggering about in magnificently appointed carriages as at Singapore, and in short he is reminded at every step that he belongs to the inferior order of mankind, and has no pretensions to equality with the ruling race. Notwithstanding all these drawbacks the Chinese are as much the salt of the earth as the Siamese, and in French Indo-China, and in Siam, they are doing what extraordinary versatility he adapts himself to circumstances; outsteps all others in industry, patience, and order; and, in spite of all efforts to the contrary, rises distinctly to the top. One of the most interesting sights possible is the great market of Saigon in the early morning. Here we see best illustrated the type distinctions between the plebeian or Mongoloid peoples—the Chinese, Annamese, Malays—and the graceful races of India. John Chinaman here figures in *Kong*, *Dink-que*, *charu*, or *Phacung*, *Phacung*, *Phacung*, and clad in nothing but his own pig-like skin, and a pair of trousers, with his queue twisted round his head, easily holds his own in bargaining against the French *marin* buying his early *saucy*; the "Malabars" (Klings), Arabs, Bengalis who seem ready to purchase unalloyed food from him; the Annamese exquisite, or even the industrious French *matron* in her morning dressing gown. The Annamese appear to confine their trading operations entirely to fresh fish, but even here the Cantonese *moat-fish*, with her cheerful trip, soon bargains down the faithful Annamite boy, who sits listlessly before her basket discharging her betel-nut saliva into the refuse garbage round the place. One Chinaman keeps a *café*, stall, chatting easily with his customers, and neatly serves out bread and butter with very fair *café au lait* to a mixed group of French sailors, *Pondicherry*, *Malabars*, Annamese, and *Madagascan* girls with rings through their noses. Strange to say, the *Malabars* seem to have the monopoly of retailing tobacco both at Saigon and Singapore, and "go that kling-man," or "that black-man side" is the Chinaman's answer when you ask him for a few cigarettes. And amidst this interesting crowd of Orientals, all of whom look easy and natural, if not graceful, stalk a few specimens of the ruling races; soldiers slovenly in their shirtilless serge suits; women whose three extremities uncertainly topple about in the discomfort of high heels, hideous dress improvers, stays with the points jutting out at the shoulders through the thin muslin dress; and wonderful pyles of false hair surrounded by high bonnets in exact imitation of the *bonnets* of the West. These some market scenes may be seen anywhere else—at Singapore, Penang, Malacca, Johore—in short anywhere and everywhere west of the meridian of Rangoon.

As to wholesale business, nearly the whole rice industry of Saigon and Bangkok, amounting to 12,000,000 piculs of export a year, is entirely in the hands of Chinese planters. Chinese exporters, and in many cases, Chinese shipowners. It is a remarkable thing that whereas Chinese steamers ply freely between Singapore, Bangkok, Penang, Malacca, Perak, and the Straits generally, the Chinese of Hongkong do not seem to possess many steamers in their own names. The Singapore Chinese have shown a readiness to become British subjects, and to fix their household gods permanently in British territory, which, so far, has not been emulated by the Hongkongers. Perhaps this is because the Cantonese are the proudest and at once the most conservative and most progressive of the Chinese races; and, in spite of differences of opinion and sympathies, are amongst those upon whom the Manchus may best rely, as long as it is old Chinese ideas of civilisation and not purely Manchu politics which are to the fore. On the other hand, the Fokien, Hainan, and Swatow men, who, from time immemorial have been the lion's share of the southern trade, are not at all enthusiastic about the rule of the present Tartar dynasty, is at best indifferent; and, perhaps, still savours somewhat of that which possessed them during the palmy days of Koxinga's rule. A great question must some day arise. Whose loyal subjects are these 5,000,000 Chinese to be? for there are certainly as many as this between Tonking and Australia. They show a distinct predilection for British rule; unlike the jealous and harassing administration of the Spaniards and the Dutch, and to a much less extent even the French, practically gives the law-abiding Chinese part of equity of rights before the law. Long experience has shown that the Chinese rarely revolt unless they have, or think they have, a grievance; and whilst they are obstinate as long as they are right, they are by no means unwilling to submit when it is calmly pointed out to them that they are wrong, and when they are firmly shown that they must not advance one step beyond "reason." If the Chinese have made our eastern colonies, and can become sound British subjects, it is wise to shrink from admitting them freely into Australia and other purely English colonies? This is a question which deserves further consideration.

NOTES FROM CHINESE PAPERS.  
Vicery Chang of Canton in his recent travels, undertaken to discover the extent of the foundations and the condition of the dams and dykes, covered more than 1,200 li, or 400 English miles. For the project of improving the native city by a good "Malao" it appears, says the *Shen-pao*, we are indebted to H.E. Liu Ming-chuan, Governor of Fongshan. It is part of a scheme comprising both a road and a bund, for the use of the Governor's steamers which will ply between Shanghai and Fongshan. The Yangtze, at Ichang, is full up to the old bank. Of steamers only the *Kiang Tung* has been running there. The salt-trading junks at Ichang and Hankow are now very numerous. Steamers appear to carry exclusively foreign and Canton goods, principally shirtings, in their trip up River. On the 15th of last month 16 piculs of new Paklin tea had already arrived at Namai (Fochow) or rather to Kiao Feng to godowns on Chung-shan Island. This is the first tea of this season. Flavour is rather poor, owing to the heavy spring rains, and the merchants augur ill from this for the opening tea-season in general. A Canton tea-merchant at Fochow sent agents up the Min River lately to Kienning to buy raw season's teas, handing them \$15,000 to pay for the purchases. The tow-rope of the boat broke as she was being towed up a rapid, the boat was wrecked, and the tea-buyer's clothes and money disappeared under the water. Fortunately, everything was saved except about \$2,000, and the merchant has the consolation of knowing that it might have been much worse. The Pekoe tea of Paklin, in the Fuhning Prefecture, is the dearest kind in the market, prices ranging from over Tls. 100 to Tls. 200 per picul. In colour, fragrance, and flavour it excels all other Pekoes, but only about 20 or 30 piculs are produced each spring. Unfortunately this spring owing to the excessive rain, very little has been grown, and although in colour and flavour it is worse than ever before, it is likely to be sold at higher prices than in former years, but owing to its scantiness and inferiority of quality the profits on it will not amount to very much. In Hupeh Province ever since the beginning of April there have been continual rains. The Yangtze is swollen already to within ten feet of its highest limit; and the weather has been so bad that the people have been unable to get in their barley, so that a pond of it is likely to rot in the fields. At Wu-chang, the capital, on the 3rd May a ferry-boat with nine passengers on board was wrecked into the rapid, and only one man escaped from drowning. The *ik hia* term, beginning of summer, on the 5th May, is already past, and thick winter clothes are still necessary as a protection against the raw cold weather. We know that Mohammedans detest pork, but the following incident shows that they also abhor the living pig. At Nanking there are many Mohammedans, and when a neighbour's pigs ran into the house of one of them, the Mohammedan, his servants belaboured the unfortunate animals with sticks and killed two of them before they could escape. In the final tableau the hog-proprietor and a group of neighbours he has brought with him are seen in the Moslem's house—having a serious conversation with him about what he has done, the good wife holds a pig about a little dead pig in both hands and crying loud and bitterly. At Wenchow, outside the "Three Corners" Gate, there is a Buddhist nursery called "the Pure Pond." On the 7th of last month five or six armed Huanan braves armed with daggers and a sword entered the nursery in the middle of the night and called on the nuns to get up and make them some tea. The frightened nuns went to their kitchen to do so, and the knights, errant, having entered, tied up and gagged the nuns, and then made a clean sweep of everything of any value which they could lay their hands on, both in the poor nuns' rooms and in the Temple. The next day the neighbours, hearing a rumour of the robbery, sent the Tipu to make an inspection. On the 7th of last month five or six armed Huanan braves armed with daggers and a sword entered the nursery in the middle of the night and called on the nuns to get up and make them some tea. The frightened nuns went to their kitchen to do so, and the knights, errant, having entered, tied up and gagged the nuns, and then made a clean sweep of everything of any value which they could lay their hands on, both in the poor nuns' rooms and in the Temple. The next day the neighbours, hearing a rumour of the robbery, sent the Tipu to make an inspection. 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